

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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R 121630Z APR 76
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1938
INFO AMEMBASSY SANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 4871

SANA FOR CODEL ABOUREZK

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP (ABOUREZK, JAMES)

SUBJ: CODEL ABOUREZK STOPOVER IN CAIRO

1. DUE TO TWO HOUR DELAY IN ATHENS, CODEL ABOUREZK
COULD NOT ARRIVE IN CAIRO, APR 10, UNTIL 1930 HOURS LOCAL.
PEOPLES ASSEMBLY PROTOCOL CHIEF MUHAMMAD 'ASSAM KASHIF,
HIS DEPUTY AND EMB CONTROL OFFICER WERE ON
HAND TO GREET CODEL. WHILE STILL IN VIP LOUNGE, SENATOR
REQUESTED KASHIF'S DEPUTY TO TELEPHONE HAYKAL'S
HOME. SINCE LINE WAS BUSY, CODEL PROCEEDED TO HILTON
FOR BRIEF REST PERIOD.

2. CODEL THEN ATTENDED DINNER IN HILTON RESTUARANT
HOSTED BY PEOPLES ASSEMBLY FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN DR. ZACHARIYA LUTFI GOMAA. OTHERS
ATTENDING THE DINNER WERE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE
MEMBER 'ALI 'ABD AL-SAMAD AL-QADDABI AND PROTOCOL
CHIEF KASHIF AND THEIR WIVES. DISCUSSION WAS
LARGELY GENERAL WITH SENATOR SEEKING TO
RESPOND TO EGYPTIAN QUERIES RE US PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN
AND POSSIBILITY THAT PRESIDENT FORD MIGHT VISIT EGYPT
THIS YEAR. SINCE CODEL'S ONWARD FLIGHT WAS SCHEDULED
TO LEAVE AT 0130, SENATOR HAD TO RETURN TO THE AIRPORT
SHORTLY AFTERWARDS.

3. ALTHOUGH ALSYS RIAD HAD EARLIER INDICATED DESIRE
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TO MEET WITH SENATOR ABOUREZK, SHORT STOPOVER PRECLUDED

A MEETING. AT HILTON, HOWEVER, CODEL MANAGED TO GET THROUGH TO HAYKAL. HE INFORMED CODEL HE WOULD BE MEETING A BROTHER-IN-LAW AT THE AIRPORT AT 2330 AND ARRANGED MEET WITH CODEL IN VIP LOUNGE AT THAT TIME. THOUGH SENATOR AND PARTY RETURNED IN TIME TO MEET KAYKAL, HE NEVER SHOWED UP. SENATOR INFORMED CONTROL OFFICER HE HAD TOLD HAYKAL THAT CODEL EAGLETON WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH HIM. WE HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY HEARD OF ANY SUCH DESIRE). APPARENTLY HAYKAL REPLIED HE WOULD RATHER NOT INITIATE CONTACT WITH SENATOR EAGLETON, BUT PREFERRED CODEL EAGLETON OR EMBASSY DO SO. SENATOR ABOUREZK REQUESTED CONTROL OFFICER CONTACT HAYKAL TO ARRANGE FOR MEETING WITH SENATOR EAGLETON. WE ARE COMMENTING ON THIS SUGGESTION BY SEPTTEL.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH CODEL'S STAY WAS SHORT, IT WAS USEFUL. SENATOR ABOUREZK IS APPRECIATED HERE FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE ARAB CAUSE. VP MUBARAK TOLD AMB THIS MORNING HE HAD BEEN BRIEFED ABOUT THE VISIT (PRESUMABLY BY GOMAA) AND WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED THAT CODEL HAD APPARENTLY PUBLICLY ENDORSED THE SALE OF C-130'S TO EGYPT.

5. SINCE FOREGOING HAD TO BE WRITTEN AFTER CODEL'S DEPARTURE, WE ARE REPEATING IT TO SANA FOR ANY CHANGES THE SENATOR MAY WISH TO MAKE.
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